(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. 43 Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) of BSNL are under installation and order for supply of additional 126 WLL BTSs has been issued. On commissioning of these BTSs by the end of this financial year, most of the wait listed applicants will be provided telephone connection progressively.

(e) Out of the total applications registered for provision of New Basic Telephone Connections (Wire & WLL) in the areas declared "on demand" in Rajasthan Telecom circle BSNL, 81.44%, 96.66% and 96.75% connections were provided within seven days of registration during the year 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively.

Special Purpose Vehicle

635. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether taking a cue from railways, Ministry of Telecommunications and Posts is considering a proposal to set up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to develop vacant space of department of posts for commercial utilization;

(b) if so, whether Ministry is considering SPV to be named Postal Land Development Authority and it will be on lines of Railway Land Development Authority;

(c) whether Ministry has forwarded proposal to the Planning Commission, Finance Ministry and Urban Development Ministry for consultation and guidance;

(d) the reaction of these Ministries; and

(e) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) There is no proposal to set up a Postal Land Development Authority. However, a proposal for setting up a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), a wholly owned company with limited liability and 100% equity participation by the Government, registered under the Companies Act, 1956, for optimum development and management of postal estates is under consideration of Government.

(e) At this stage, no time frame for setting up an SPV could be indicated.

FDI in Communications and IT Ministry

636. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Foreign Exchange earned by the software exports during 2006-07 and 2007-08; and

(b) the total amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Communications and IT Ministry during 2006-07 and 2007-08?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) As per the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), the total software and services exports in 2006-07 and 2007-08 are US$ 31.3 billion and US$ 40.3 billion respectively.

(b) The total amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Telecommunications and I.T. Sector in 20-06-07 and 2007-08 is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

FDI

(Amount in million)

Sl. No.	Sector	2006-07 Apr-Mar		2007-08 Apr-Mar		Total	
		FDI in Rs	FDI in US$	FDI in Rs	FDI in US$	FDI in Rs	FDI in US$
1	Computer Software & Hardware	117,858.23	2,614.43	56,233.00	1,409.64	174,091.24	4,024.06
2	Electronics	1,853.25	41.45	4,328.60	108.65	6,181.84	150.09
3	Telecommunications	21,550.77	477.74	51,026.09	1,261.46	72,576.86	1,739.20
	GRAND TOTAL :	141,262.25	3,133.61	111,587.69	2,779.74	252,849.94	5,913.35

Ban on the use of mobile phones in schools/colleges

637. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has issued any guidelines stating that electromagnetic waves emitted from mobile phones can seriously damage the tissue of user's brain; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to ban the use of mobile phones in schools and colleges by students so as to avoid any harmful health affects as well as from mobiles being misused by students during school and college study hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The latest Fact Sheet No. 304 of May, 2006 of World Health Organization (WHO) states that from all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long-term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF signals produced by the base stations. Further a Committee was setup under the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, to study the effects of radiations from mobile phone towers and related aspects. The Committee has studied the effects and concluded that overall there is not enough evidence to show direct health hazards of RF exposures from mobile base stations.

Post offices in NE-region

638. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: